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REMARKS

Claims 3-8 are pending in the application. Applicants have canceled claim 1. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and the foregoing remarks.

1. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,618,091 to Tamura. Claim 1 has been canceled.

3. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indication of the allowable subject matter of the application. Claims 3-8 are allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that claims 3-8 are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 define patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider any fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, authorization is given to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1025.

Feb-23-05

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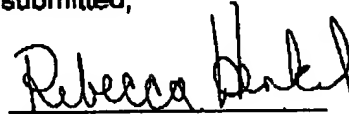
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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it would help expedite matters.

Respectfully submitted,


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